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The Mills of the Quittapahilla.

PAPER READ BEFORE THE

LEBANON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 16, 1903.

—BY—

Henry S. Heilman,

Lebanon, ("Sunny Side,") Pa.

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The Mills of the Quittapahilla.

BY HENRY S. HEILMAN.*

Lebanon county holds two streams of some importance that may be said to be exclusively its own from source to mouth. The one of these is the Mill creek; the other the Quittapahilla. There are many smaller tributaries and two larger streams, the Tulpehocken and the Swatara, which by their flow help to water our rich and fertile acres. The Tulpehocken has its birth on our soil, and the Swatara celebrates its marriage on our territory, where its two composing branches, meandering from different sources, unite in a watery wedlock to flow on in blissful union the remainder of their now united lives.

But the Millbach, or Mill Creek, and the Quittapahilla are Lebanon county streams almost in toto. Their life is safe while tethered to the home of their birth, but, like bold, disobedient and venturesome children, the moment they leave the environments of their own homes and get outside these bounds, they are swallowed up by more voracious bug-a-boos than any frightened child ever saw in its wildest dreams. The former has scarcely gotten across the eastern boundary of the county when the Tulpehocken literally takes it in; while the latter is completely engulfed in the Swatara just this side our western county limits.

* The credit of this Paper is due to me only so far as pertains to securing and furnishing the facts, information and dates for same. The writing of it was done by Rev. P. C. Croll and Dr. S. P. Hellman, to both of whom I am under great obligations. This statement as to their part in the getting up of the Paper is added not upon their action but upon my own positive insistence.

H. S. H.

As our first settlers were Germans, and soon put the former stream to practical uses in turning its grain to grist for man and beast, they named the same Muhlbach, which, except that it has been anglicised, is its name to-day. The latter stream the Indians had named Quittapahilla, meaning "Snake-hole," but its German white settlers, though preserving its name, turned it into a Muhlbach, or Mill Creek also. It is a history of the mills erected on its banks since that day that is contemplated in this Paper. The poet of the Quittapahilla sings of its complaint against these German settlers, that:

"All these hard-souled sons of toil on thrift were chiefly bent,
No poetry appealed to them except with fortune blent;
Like Samson by the Philistines, they bound me hand and foot,
And yoked me to their factories, and made me grind their grist.

Until to-day my power is sapped by race-course, pipes and rills,
To sprinkle dusty streets, I serve to turn some fifty mills,
A bond slave of white industries befouled, begrimed by filth,
The Lazaretto and bug-bear of "Lebanon's Board of Health."

Let it be said in the beginning that these "fifty mills" are not all grist mills. About a dozen, or, correctly speaking, fourteen is the total number of grist mills ever erected or kept in operation by its waters. But its saw and flouring mills were a century in advance of its cloth, or woolen and silk mills, its iron mills and factories. For the foundations of the first grist mills were laid almost as soon as the first rude huts of the earliest white settlers in these parts of Penn's Woods had been reared. The creek had been accustomed to the wanderings of the different tribes of the red men, and greeted the immigration of his pale-faced brother with the song since set into poetic measure by Tennyson, that

"Men may come and men may go
But I flow on forever."

Its new settlers, however, sung the sentiment of another couplet since coined into rhythmic phrase by Owen Meredith,

"We may live without poetry, music and art :
We may live without conscience, and live without heart :
We may live without friends, we may live without books,
But civilized man cannot live without cooks,"

and driven by such a necessity, and facilitated by the streams at hand they early set to work to erect the first mill to provide its cooks with one of the articles most essential in this civilized life of cookery—flour.

Whilst it is about 170 years since the earliest pioneers took up their abode upon the Quittapahilla, it was nearly that early, or more than 160 years ago, that the first mill was already put into operation by its waters.

It is a matter of dispute as to which was the very first mill erected. The honor lies between the Kucher and the Stoever mills. The latter, located south of Sunny Side, is known to have been erected by the Rev. John Caspar Stoever in the year 1737-40, and fortunately is still standing and in operation. But the latter is claimed, in a sworn-made statement in 1859, by John Krause, once its owner, whose childhood dates back to the eighteenth century, to have been the first. He says: "The mill I owned was the first one on the creek." Again: "Think the church (Moravian) was built after the mill." The church was built 1750. Be this as it may, it certainly was the one nearest the Quittapahilla's source, and we shall let the story of these several mills flow in the natural order of the stream, which furnished the water-power. Neptune and not Chronos shall guide us with his wand in the narration.

Near the source of the stream has been erected since the establishment of our county, the county almshouse, but this being mostly filled with aged inmates, whose "grinders are few" in King Solomon's observation, we shall not count it among the mills of this stream, but from it, as bearings, follow the lazy meanderings of this creek for about half a mile, where John Peter Kucher built a dam and race-course, and first of all harnessed this current to rotate for him the newly-



* THE OLD TOWN MILL, AT NEW LONDON, CONN.

* The old Town Mill shown in this picture, was built in 1670 by John Winthrop, the younger the first Governor of Connecticut, the frame is of the original timbers, and the shape of the building is the same as when first built. The Winthrop house stood in the yard adjoining the mill, but was torn down twelve years ago by the city, having been bought for a school site, and a fine school building now stands on that spot, as shown in outline in the back-ground of the picture. The old mill belongs to the city of New London, by which it is rented to tenants to operate. Loan of this picture is by courtesy of the American Hay, Flour and Feed Journal. Produce Exchange, New York City, whilst not pertaining to our own historic stream this picture of this old historic mill is introduced more particularly to show the form of an old time water-wheel, and its relation to a mill as the source of power.

constructed water wheel that operated the simple and old-fashioned machinery, and grinding millstones of his flouring mill. The exact year of its erection cannot now be certainly ascertained. There is abundant proof that it was here very early, beside the testimony already quoted. John Peter Kucher arrived in this country and settled on the Quittapahilla in the year 1732. In 1761 he erected his first stone mansion close by, only recently demolished, and it is presumable that this was made possible only after several years of flourishing business at milling. There are records of patents issued to said Kucher conveying large tracts of land along the creek in 1748, 1751, and 1761, and it is believed he owned at one time over 1,200 acres of land. He deeded to Baltzer Orth, his son-in-law, in 1774 nearly 200 acres, and to Gottlieb Kucher, presumably his son, in same year of 1774, 303 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres. The latter's last Will and Testament, bearing date Aug. 7, 1776, directs the sale of his plantations and mills (grist and saw), and appoints Adam Orth and John Thome executors. This is the earliest mention made of these mills in any document known to us. But as it is the identical tract (303 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres) which he secured from Peter Kucher, and as the line of descent henceforth is known, we can trace the conveyance of this first mill property as follows :

Mill erected by Peter Kucher, date unknown.

Deeded to Gottlieb Kucher with 303 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres, Sept. 27, 1774.

Sold by Executors of Gottlieb Kucher, Mch. 15, 1779.

Deed of same tract and mills of Christopher Kucher to Balser Orth May 2, 1792.

Deed of Balser Orth to Prest., Managers & Co., of the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Navigation Co., May 3, 1793.

Deed of S. & S. Nav. Co. to Bank of North America July 31, 1793, a part of tract 184 acres, and excepting bed laid out in towing paths, canal, and water courses.

In 1792 Balser Orth granted Philip Greenawalt right to tap his mill dam, if needed, twice a week, on Wednesdays

and Sundays, to water latter's meadow. But no water shall be taken after 12th of August yearly, so as to be injurious to the mill or mills of Balser Orth for the consideration of 30 £ in gold or silver currency.

Deed of Jacob and Joseph Light to John Krause April 2, 1832. Messrs. Conrad Raber and Matthias S. Richards, of Reading, being owners of said Greenawalt meadow and water rights, released to John Krause, July 26, 1838, then owner of the mill, by which the above water right was extinguished.

Deed from John Krause to Union Canal Co., of Penna., May 1, 1839.

The mill is thus seen to have been in steady operation, and in more than half a dozen hands, for the greater part of a century. In 1793 the S. and S. Canal Co., newly formed, and chartered by the State, bought the right of way and water rights of Balser Orth for its canal, which has the historic significance of having been visited and inspected at this very spot, and thence to Leys, on Nov. 11 or 12, 1793, by Pres. Geo. Washington, Robert Morris, David Rittenhouse and others, and again by Pres. Washington and Alexander Hamilton in Oct. 1794, on their way to quell the whiskey insurrection in Western Penna.

The mills must have been running smoothly for the greater part of a century when in 1833-4 the Union Canal Co. erected a steam and pumping apparatus, and by means of an engine and feeder began pumping great quantities of water from this mill pond into the canal, thus diverting the water from its regular course, and presently complaints were made, and redress had to be made. By an agreement all millers below this point were annually paid damages in proportion to the number of days the pumping engine was in operation, averaging about \$150 yearly, though not equally to each of eight miller complainants.

Following is a copy of the Agreement, just above referred to, made to and between the canal contending parties for a period of five years, after which the privilege of using, or tak-

ing, the Quittapahilla water for canal purposes was taken without any payment for same, which lead to a noted litigation, or case in equity, in our courts :

"Articles of Agreement, made, concluded, and agreed upon, this first day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and fifty, between Abraham Herr, David Kreider, Peter Bachman, Tobias Kreider, John Long, Abraham Long, Joseph G. Heilman, and Peter Strickler, all of Lebanon county, and the owners of Mills, situate on the Quittapahilla Creek, in said county, of the one part, and the Union Canal Company of Pennsylvania, by their agent and resident engineer, B. B. Lehman, of the other part. Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, for themselves, severally and respectively, they and each of their heirs and assigns, do by these presents covenant and agree to and with the party of the second part, as follows, to wit : That the said party of the second part are hereby authorized and shall be permitted to take as much water from the Quittapahilla creek, east of the borough of Lebanon, by the working of their engine for the supply of the summit level of their said canal as they may think proper or necessary for a period of five years, commencing on the first day of January, A. D., 1850, and ending on the first day of January, 1855, for which license, leave, or privilege, the said party of the second part bind themselves and their successors to pay to the parties of the first part, their and each of their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, annually, on the first day of April at their office, in North Lebanon township, the following sums, to wit :

To A'bm Herr,	his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns,	\$90
" David Kreider,	" " " " " "	105
" Peter Bachman,	" " " " " "	140
" Tobias Kreider,	" " " " " "	110
" John Long,	" " " " " "	60
" Ab'm Long,	" " " " " "	160
" Jos. Heilman,	" " " " " "	250
" Peter Strickler,	" " " " " "	325

The first payment to be made to each of said parties of the first part on the 1st day of April, A. D., 1851.

The second payment on the first day of April, A. D., 1852.

The third payment on the first day of April, A. D., 1853.

The fourth payment on the first day of April A. D., 1854.

The fifth payment on the first day of April, A. D., 1855.

The above mentioned annual payments to be paid on the day and times above specified, per annum in each and every year during the period of this license, provided said engine of canal company is started and run for the space of any one day without regard to the time or ~~number of days~~ that said engine may be run or used, but should said engine not be started or run during any part or portion of any one of said years, and the said Union Canal Company not use any of the water of the said Quittapahilla creek for their said canal, then and in such case for the year that none of said water is or shall, or may, be used by said company for the use of said canal for such year, the payment fixed for that year is not to be made, and the said Union Canal Company are not to be liable to other or any of the parties of the first part, under this agreement, for such year.

It is further understood and agreed that the sum to be paid by the party of the second part, to the parties of the first part, is to be for the injury or damage that may result to their respective mill properties, and that any damage or injury that any other person or persons may have or claim against the said Union Canal Company, for taking the water of the Quittapahilla creek forms no part of this agreement, but it is to stand and remain as if this agreement never had been made or entered into.

In witness whereof, the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

PETER STRICKLER. (L. S.)
 PETER BACHMAN. (L. S.)
 ABRAHAM LONG. (L. S.)
 ABRAHAM HERR. (L. S.)
 TOBIAS KREIDER. (L. S.)
 DAVID KREIDER. (L. S.)
 JOSEPH G. HEILMAN. (L. S.)
 JOHN LONG. (L. S.)
 B B LEHMAN. (L. S.)

Res. Eng. U. C.

Signed, sealed and delivered in
 the presence of

JOSIAH FUNCK."

Besides its general interest, this Agreement is of special interest as showing the names of the different owners of eight of the Quittapahilla mills more than half a century ago.

Not only do "the mills of the Gods grind slowly and exceedingly fine," those of men have sometimes taken a like course. Finding that this agreement was not lived up to after 1855, at which time the canal company also became insolvent, these millers in 1859 combined to prosecute said company, and with Joseph G. Heilman as plaintiff, a long, tedious, and involved law suit was entered upon in our courts, from the printed testimony of which we have gathered many of the data here given. The outcome was a victory for the plaintiff, but payment of the amount adjudged him was only secured after the property of the defendant insolvent canal company had been sold, and out of said sale money realized to pay the claim.

The Kucher mill was not itself operated regularly, or for a long time after the steam pumping station was erected there. Both the grist and saw mill were abandoned, and fell into general desuetude within the memory of our older citizens. John Krause sold the property to the Union Canal Company in 1839 (including 26 acres and 126 perches of land, on which were erected the grist and saw mills, house and barn) for the sum of \$7,500.

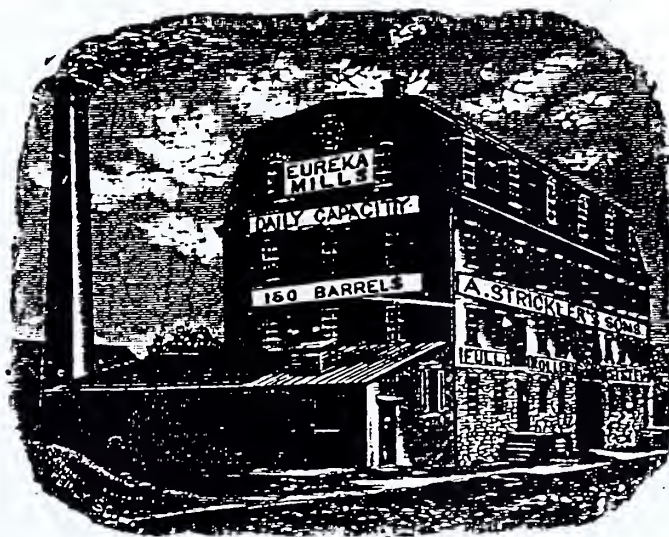
Doubtless there occurred many incidents of interest in connection with the long life of this historic and notable mill property, of which we have no record, but one more item of interest is worthy of mention. In 1782 occurred a great drought in these parts. By Fall there was great distress on account of the scarcity of water. All vegetation was dried up. The Hebron Church Chronicler alludes to it in the following terms: "The like we have not experienced in Pennsylvania. Most wells are without water, and most of the mills are stopped."

2. We turn now to the next mill along the stream—the present Strickler mill for North 7th street. Before doing so, it is worthy of mention that it is known that a mill once stood on the Hazel Dyke, which formerly was a more important and perennial tributary of the Quittapahilla. A number of our older citizens, amongst them to name only a few, Messrs. Amos Gettle, David Miller and Thomas Evans, have stated to me having in their earlier years yet seen the foundation walls of this one-time mill on the Hazel Dyke, near at what is now the crossing of the Long Lane, south of town, as well as a flowing stream there, now in evidence only, and rather too much so, in case of flood conditions, at which times its extemporizing and rampaging kinks are the terror as well as the disgust of the Hazel Dykers. It is said that the original builder, whose name is not recalled, was twitted and raked as to where he would secure water to run his mill, to which he made reply that that was the miller's lookout. Having often no current whatever to propel his machinery, he was dubbed "Der Drucke" Miller—The Dry Miller.***

* This stream takes its rise near the South Mountain, not far from the city water supply dams, runs a short distance, and then sinks into the earth, showing no outlet anywhere. A natural ravine, sufficiently broad for the bed of quite a large stream is a marked feature all the way towards Lebanon through South Lebanon township. The oldest inhabitants state that way back, some 200 years, tradition has it, that along the course of this ravine flowed a stream, and that not more than 150 years ago a mill was in operation in the vicinity of what is now called "Five Points."

** Years ago Mr. Simeon Guilford, one of the oldest inhabitants of the city of Lebanon, a practical engineer of large experience, and a man of good judgment, manifested a deep interest in the matter of introducing water into the city, and gave it as his opinion that if an excavation of sufficient depth were made in Good's heart's meadow (now that section lying between Cedar avenue and Walnut street,) a body of water would be struck sufficient to supply the wants of Lebanon. How far he was correct in his premises no one can tell, but it is reasonable to believe that a large subterranean body of water flows under the line or course of an overlying ravine, and finds its outlet either at Gloninger's Springs, or further west at what is known as Blue Spring, near the Sunny Side mill-dam.

Returning to the 7th st. Strickler mill it is known to have been at first known as Wolf's clover mill. This mill was succeeded by a machine shop, owned by Abraham and Michael Zug, from whom both the shop and site were purchased in 1866 by Abraham Strickler, and in its place was commenced the erection of a flour and grist mill, and completed and put in operation in March, 1867. It continued to be operated by Abraham Strickler till May, 1882, then leased by him to his sons, Cyrus P. and W. H. Strickler. After the death of Abraham Strickler, Nov. 1, 1883, the mill was pur-



"7TH STREET STRICKLER MILL."

chased from the Abraham Strickler estate by his two sons just named, and its operation since continued by them. On May 8, 1899, this mill was burned down, but was immediately replaced with a new building by its owners. A cut of this old Strickler mill is here shown.

3. The next mill is another Strickler mill, on North 9th st. It was formerly the Leitz mill, and bought by George Strickler in 1836, by whose sons, M. J., E. G. and G. P., it is now operated. It was the first mill on the Quittapahilla to have introduced into it steam power, but this proved a failure at its first introduction. A cut of this mill is shown.

4. The fourth mill is that of Strickler and Yingst, West Cumberland st. It is run wholly by steam.

5. The fifth mill is the Heilman-mill at Sunny Side. This was built about 1790 by John Stoever, a son of Rev. John Caspar Stoever. Afterwards it was sold to Samuel Light, who sold it to John Light, then sold to Henry Snively, then to Joseph G. Heilman, from whom it came into possession of his son, the present owner, the writer of this Paper. On May 25, 1838, the southern wall of this mill, the first mill erected at that point, fell down. It was at once rebuilt, so that on the 29th day of September of the same year the mill



"9TH STREET STRICKLER MILL."

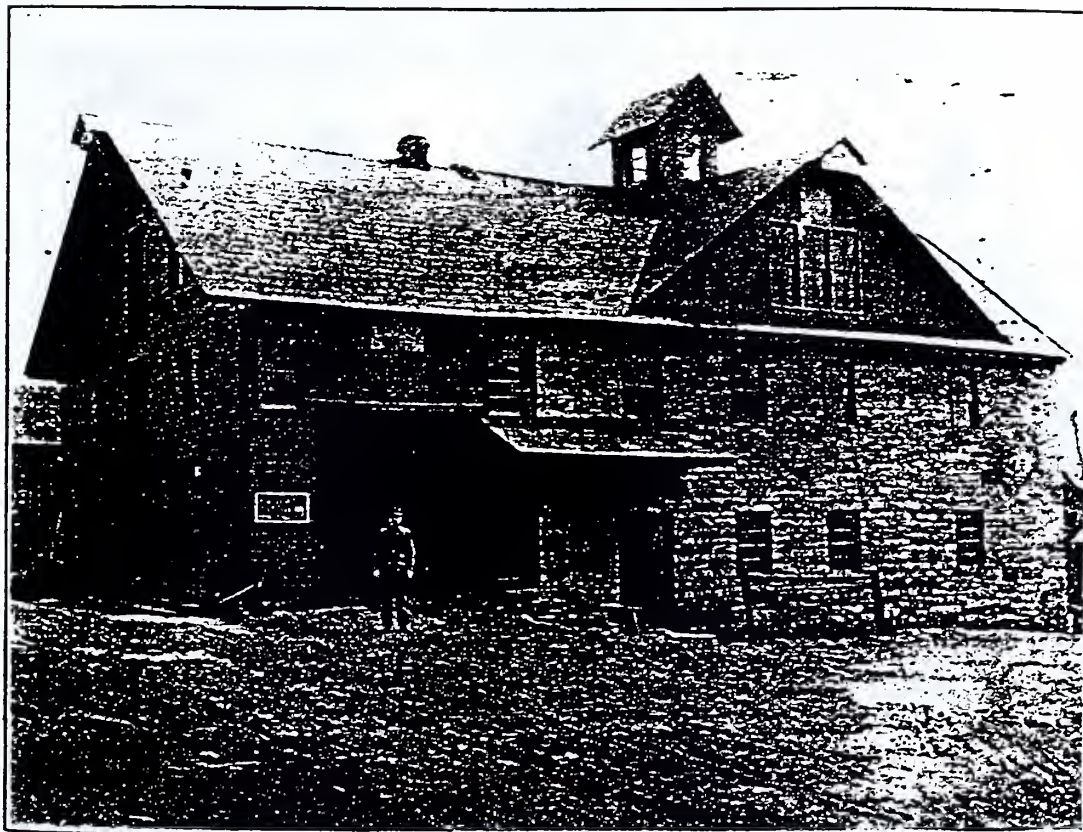
was again in operation. On Thursday, April 10, 1845, between 11 and 12 o'clock, midnight, the mill took fire and was totally destroyed. Work was at once commenced to rebuild it, and also the saw-mill attached to the main mill as part of the same, and both were again in operation before the close the year. A cut of this mill is shown, and a cut of the dwelling house built there in 1795 by John Stoever.

6. The sixth mill—on the down stream—is the Stoever mill, one half mile west of the Sunny Side mill. This was

erected in 1737-1740 by Rev. John Caspar Stoever, where he also resided to the day of his death. We shall again revert to this mill.

The other mills down the Quittapahilla are :

7. Long's mill, now owned and operated by Morris A. Moyer.



MILL BUILT BY JOHN STOEVER, 1790.

8. Kreider's mill, south of the Heilig house, on the Dauphin and Berks Turnpike. This mill was built in 1793 by Abraham Riegel. The Riegel estate sold it to David Kreider, Sr., in 1840, and he sold it to Andrew and David Kreider in 1850. In 1858 Andrew sold his share to David Kreider, who is the present owner of the mill.

9. Bachman's mill, east of Annville. This mill was built in 1831 by Abraham and Mary Raiguel (Riegel). Conveyed to Peter Bachman in 1834. Reconveyed to John K. Bachman in 1849, and deeded to John A. Bachman, its present owner, in 1903.

10. Raigel's mill, south of Annville.

11. Killinger's mill, south of Reading and Dauphin

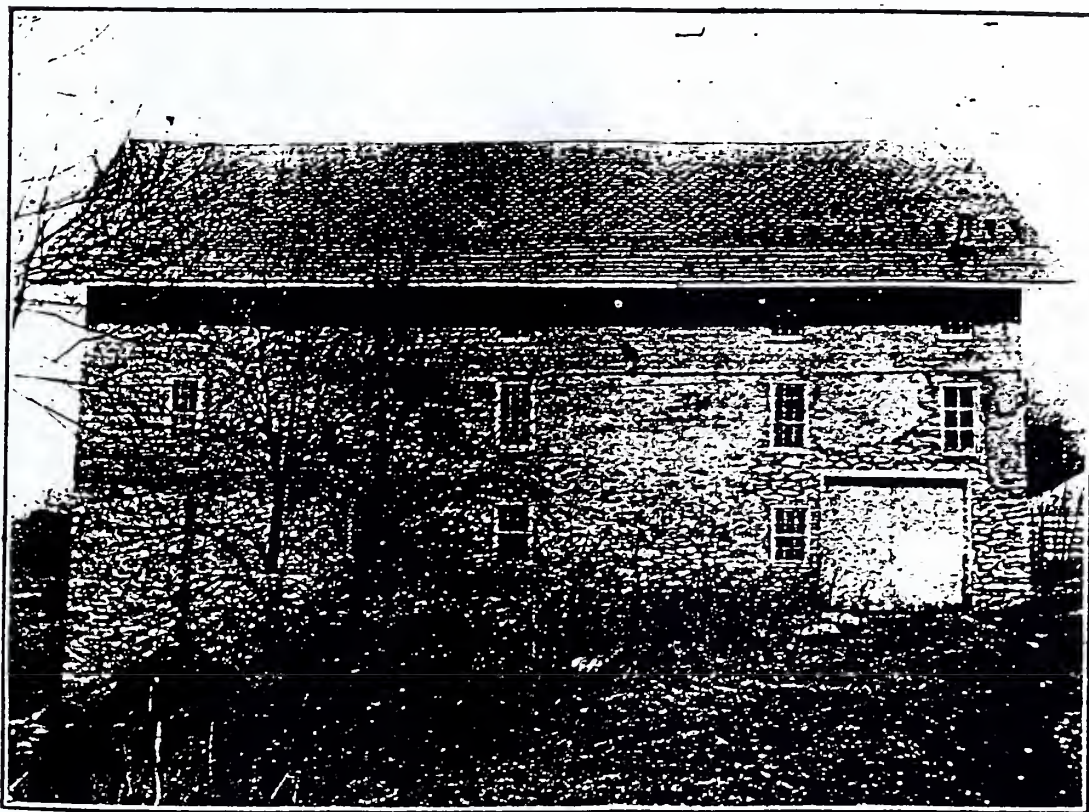


HOUSE BUILT BY JOHN STOEVER, 1795.

Turnpike, west of Annville. In 1816 this mill was in the ownership of Henry Herr, by whom presumably it had been erected. In that year it passed by will of said Henry Herr to his son, Henry Herr. The title then passed to Jonathan Herr, who sold the mill to J. S. Killinger in 1865, who in turn sold it to John W. Killinger in 1878.

12. Joseph H. Kreider, northwest of Annville.
13. Light's forge mill, owned by the Kreiders.
14. The factory mill at Syner, near and below which place the Quittapahilla empties into the Swatara stream.

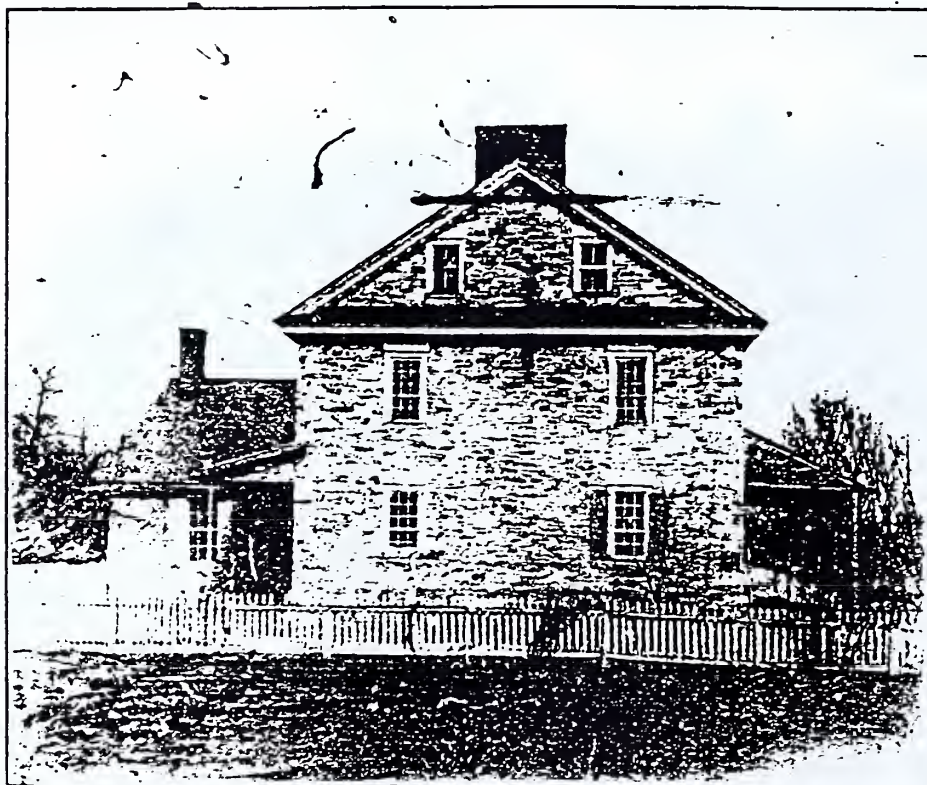
We now turn again for a fuller account of it to the Stoever mill, for the reason that possibly it is the first, if not really the first, or earliest, mill erected on the



MILL BUILT BY REV. JOHN CASPAR STOEVER, 1737-1740.

Quittapahilla, although priority is claimed for the Kucher mill, as shown in the earlier part of this Paper. Furthermore the mill building, as originally erected 166 years ago, is still standing, and in actual use now as a flour and grist mill, and still further for the reason that it was erected by,

operated by, and was the home for 40 years of a man unique in character, who occupies a noted and well-deserved place in the pioneer history of Lebanon county, and still more largely so in its early religious history. — a man the intensity of whose religious activity was marvellous, exercised not only in his immediate vicinity, but extended into many and distant parts in the Province of Pennsylvania. To those either near to or



HOME BUILT BY ADAM STOEBER. 1792.

remote from such a landmark, the one time home of such a man therefore, is, and always remains, a spot to which attaches special interest. One is almost irresistibly led here to digress in order to delineate the man rather than his belongings. But one must refrain, as it does not belong here, and as this has elsewhere been done so well, — see p. 214, et sequi-

ture, Rev. Dr. Schmauk's "History of the Lutheran Church in Pennsylvania." Publications of the Penna.-German Society, vol. xi, 1902.

Rev. John Caspar Stoever, at the age of 21 years came to America on the ship, James Goodwill, David Crocket, Master, and qualified at Philadelphia, Sept. 11, 1728. Six years later, March 7, 1734, 200 acres of land at what is now known as Sunny Side, on the Quittapahilla, were patented to him. In 1737 he started there the erection of a mill, which was only completed in 1740, a part of the building also then taken in use by him for a dwelling house, for which purpose two rooms on the first floor, and four on the second floor were utilized. The whole building was 40 by 60 feet in dimensions, with stone walls three feet thick, and these nearly as solid to-day as when first constructed. The mill portion contained four sets of burr stones to grind flour and chop grain for feed. The Snitz creek empties into the Quittapahilla just above the mill, increasing by so much the volume of water. The western end of the mill contained a fort for the protection against the Indians, to which Stoever's neighbors often fled for shelter against the many depredations of the red man. Access to this fort from the mill was through an arch which is still visible.

Rev. P. C. Croll, in "Landmarks in the Lebanon Valley," writes of this mill: "Whether it was from a generous desire to supply these early settlers with bread for the body as well as for the soul that this pastor built a mill almost simultaneously with the church Hill church, or whether he saw a chance to grind more cash into his pockets we cannot tell, nor wish to insinuate. Suffice it to say that for more than a hundred and fifty years the waters of the Quittapahilla have here turned the machinery that has ground out one kind of grist for the customer and the other for the owner." And further: "Much of the building's interior and exterior is as it was in the days of Stoever. The windows, the floors, the walls, all the main frame-work of the building remains." "Immense timbers constitute the frame work." On a two-inch walnut step was, until recently, found the name of the

builder, together with the date 1737, evidently burned on with a hot iron. The hat-rack of Pastor Stoever, of walnut framework and pegs, upon which he must have hung his great coat or hat a thousand times and more, is still preserved. So are some of the library and closet doors of the old manse, all made of solid walnut. Altogether the landmark is well preserved, and well worth a visit by anyone interested in what is so fraught with ancient and important events."

There are indeed many in number, and interesting in kind of ancient and important events attaching to this landmark of the olden times, it in itself holding for us a fascinating charm. Of these we can stop here to give only one, an incident that occurred in ~~this mill building~~, interesting in itself, and withal pathetic, as it marks the end of Pastor Stoever's busy life. Advanced in years, as he now was, and in a debilitated condition, preventing him at that time from going to his loved near-by Hill church to confirm a class of catechumens, he requested its members to come to his house for confirmation in preparation for the Lord's Supper on the coming Whitsuntide. "After a lengthy and fatiguing service of review and examination, concluding with the rite of confirmation, Pastor Stoever, utterly exhausted, fell over, and expired in the presence of his family, some members of his flock, and the class upon whose heads he had just laid the hands of confirmation."* So here on the banks of the Quittapahilla he had dwelt upon for many a year, flowed out, like its peacefully flowing waters, the life of this man, who, in spite of his many shortcomings, was "one of the most extraordinary and indefatigable missionaries that Pennsylvania ever had," and withal was a "great organizer of churches." A cut of this 1737-40 mill building is here shown, and also a cut of the dwelling house near the mill, erected by Adam Stoever in 1792.

* This interesting statement is upon the authority of Miss Elizabeth Snively, who was present at the sad occurrence of Pastor Stoever's sudden demise. She was born in 1763, and therefore was sixteen years of age at the time of its occurrence. She subsequently often related the story to her nephew, Joseph C. Heilman, father of the writer of this Paper, of whose family she was a member to the time of her death after the death of her own father, John Ulrich Snively.

For want of more definite information at hand as to the others, detailed descriptions of only eight of the fourteen mills can here be given. Of the other mills, to each one of which interesting facts and reminiscences also attach, we may give account at another time, as time and opportunity for research may afford.

Although some of these old mills are still in existence, they are largely so only as to their externals. About thirty years ago came the introduction of the new process milling, called the roller system, into which system were incorporated from time to time a train of useful inventions—purifiers, dust collectors, scourers, bolters, separators, and other machinery. With the substitution of rolls for millstones passed the golden age of the millstone, and put away thousands of small rural mills, or made it necessary for these mills to turn away from the old process of milling. The millstone had served its time and was retired with high honors and pleasant memories. Like the passing of the old, communal cider mill, with the passing of so many other characteristic charms and features of the older rural life, has passed "Die Altfaschen Kunne-Miehl." Of it, in his charming way, Dr. Harbaugh wrote :

Dort unne in der Walli an der Krick
 Seh'cht 'n Grup vun geele Weide schteh ?
 Seh'cht ah 'n Tohlhaus un' 'en Tohrnpeik Brick,
 Wo lange Babble schiesse in die Heh ?
 Un' Seh'scht dorch 's Silwer Weide laab g'schpiel.
 Wann juscht der wind die Nesht 'n wenig weht—
 'N alt Gebei, das dort im Schatte kiehl
 Recht mitte in de geele Weide schteht ?
 Sell is' die gut altfaschen Kunne-Miehl.

Es is' blesirlich in die Miehl zu geh,
 Abbattich wam mer warte soll uf 's Mehl ;
 Nor'd hot in'r Zeit un' kan recht alles seh ;
 Sell is fer Buwe als 'es bescht Dheel.

Dann geht m'r an 'd'r-Damm un' fischt e' weil,
Un' macht sich Peife von de Weide Beem,
Sell macht der Z'rick weg-nord zu gleene Meil:
M'r hockt sick uf der Sack un' peift sich heem;
D'r Gaul kann langsam geh', 's hot jo kee' Eil.

Der Miller war abaut e'n neiser Mann.

* * * * *

Un' ehrlich war er aw, bis uf der Sent.

Bei'n Mishter Braun war kee' verdacht,
Sei Bushel un' sei' Tohlbox, wie mer's nennt,
Hen alles gans recht an der Mann gebrocht,
Un' wie er's g'saat hôt, so war's juschtement."



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